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FEBRUARY 2 1920 SERIAL NO. 196

THE MENTOR

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

By HAMLIN GARLAND

DEPARTMENT OF BIOGRAPHY

VOLUME 7
NUMBER 24

TWENTY CENTS A COPY

THE GREAT ADVENTURE

NLY those are fit to live who do not fear to die; and none are fit to die who have shrunk from the joy of life and the duty of life. Both life and death are parts of the same Great Adventure. Never yet was worthy adventure worthily carried through by the man who put his personal safety first. Never yet was a country worth living in unless its sons and daughters were of that stern stuff which bade them die for it at need; and never yet was a country worth dying for unless its sons and daughters thought of life not as something concerned only with the selfish evanescence of the individual but as a link in the great chain of creation and causation, so that each person is seen in his true relations as an essential part of the whole, whose life must be made to serve the larger and continuing life of the whole. . . .

With all my heart I believe in the joy of living; but those who achieve it do not seek it as an end in itself, but as a seized and prized incident of hard work well done and of risk and danger never wantonly courted but never shirked when duty commands that they be faced. And those who have earned joy, but are rewarded only with sorrow, must learn the stern comfort dear to great souls, the comfort that springs from the knowledge taught in times of iron that the law of worthy living is not fulfilled by pleasure, but by service, and by sacrifice when only thereby can service be rendered.

—THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

From "The Great Adventure."

THE MENTOR ASSOCIATION

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THE MENTOR IS PUBLISHED TWICE A MONTH

BY THE MENTOR ASSOCIATION, INC., AT 114-116 EAST 16TH STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y. SUBSCRIPTION: FOUR DOLLARS A YEAR. FOREIGN POSTAGE 75 CENTS EXTRA. CANADIAN POSTAGE 50 CENTS EXTRA. SINGLE COPIES TWENTY CENTS. PRESIDENT, W. D. MOFFAT; VICE-PRESIDENT, PAUL MATHEWSON; SECRETARY, G. W. SCHIECK; TREASURER, J. S. CAMPBELL; ASSISTANT TREASURER AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY, H. A. CROWE.

FEBRUARY 1, 1920 VOLUME 7 NUMBER 24

Entered as second-class matter March 10, 1913, at the postoffice at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.

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THE MENTOR · DEPARTMENT OF BIOGRAPHY
SERIAL NUMBER 196

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

By HAMLIN GARLAND

Author of "Main Traveled Roads," "The Captain of the Gray Horse Troop," "Rose of Dutchers Cooley," "A Son of the Middle Border," etc.

MENTOR GRAVURES

THE BIRTHPLACE OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT

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THEODORE ROOSEVELT THE RANCHMAN

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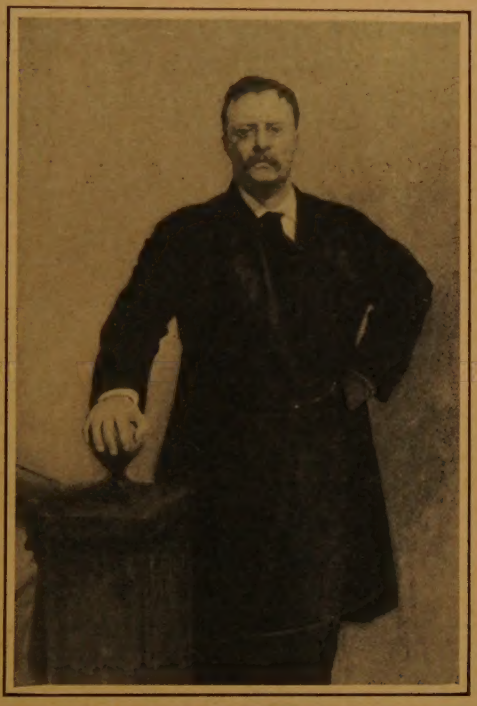
COLONEL ROOSEVELT OF THE ROUGH RIDERS



PORTRAIT OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT
Painted by John Sargent for the White House

MENTOR GRAVURES

PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT

•

THE NORTH ROOM SAGAMORE HILL OYSTER BAY

•

ROOSEVELT, LEADER OF THE PEOPLE

IN a certain high American sense Theodore Roosevelt was born an aristocrat—the kind of aristocrat whose distinction arises from a union of mind, of character and of will. For more than two centuries his father's people had been well-regarded citizens of New York State, and his mother, Martha Bulloch Roosevelt, a Southern woman, came of good Scotch and English stock. Hence Theodore began life in what Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses Grant would have regarded as dangerously luxurious surroundings.

It is important to bear in mind at the outset that the influence of Theodore's mother softened the sectional prejudices which he must have shared, for his childhood was coincident with the Civil War. Without

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THEODORE ROOSEVELT
Father of Theodore Roosevelt. A leading citizen in his generation.

doubt her training in tolerance went with him in all the years of his life, for he was never a bitter sectionalist. Like Lincoln he was for the welfare of all the States and the rights of every class. He understood both sides of the conflict between the North and South.

His home influences cannot be called typical of the aspiring American youth, for his boyhood, spent in the heart of New York City, was without physical hardships, hunger or anxiety. No struggle for schooling, no lack of books, no vulgar or brutal associates hindered or corrupted him. The English spoken in his home was unusually good, and the fact that in after life he used little slang and no profanity, and that like Grant he refused to tolerate obscenity, can be traced to the influence of his father, who, though a lover of outdoor games and a sportsman, had no taste for low amusements or coarse associates.

College and Ranch Life

According to competent witnesses he carried these characteristics through Harvard University. He seems to have lived a wholesome, vigorous life, and when he graduated, in the class of '80, he left a creditable but not an especially high record.

With such a parentage and such a training, it was inevitable that he should begin his public career as a civic reformer, and, at twenty-two, as a member of the State Legislature, he put himself in opposition to the corrupt practises of his own party, and though attacked and ridiculed as a "dude," "a silk stocking idealist," persisted for three years, until the death of his wife (followed by that of his mother within a short time) made his political plans seem of no account.

MARTHA BULLOCH ROOSEVELT
Mother of Theodore Roosevelt

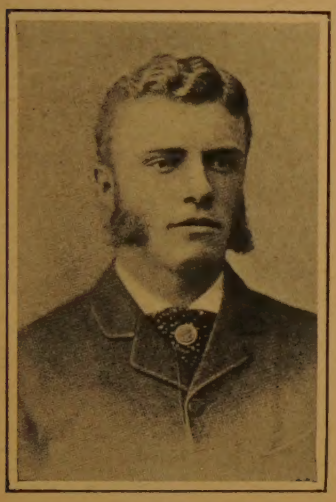
THEODORE ROOSEVELT
At nine years of age

All his life when in sorrow or perplexity, he had turned his face to the fields and forests, to the wilderness, and so now in his deep disheartenment, he determined on visiting the far West, to get away from all political

associations. In a letter to a friend (at the time) he said, "My work this winter has been very harassing and I feel both tired and restless. I think I shall spend the next two or three years in making shooting trips either in the far West or in the Northern woods—and there will be plenty of work to do writing."

He did more than hunt and write. He not only purchased a cattle ranch in North Dakota, but for two years rode the range with his men, sharing their hardships and acquiring a part of their skill, and, for recreation, trailed elk and bear in the Rocky Mountains.

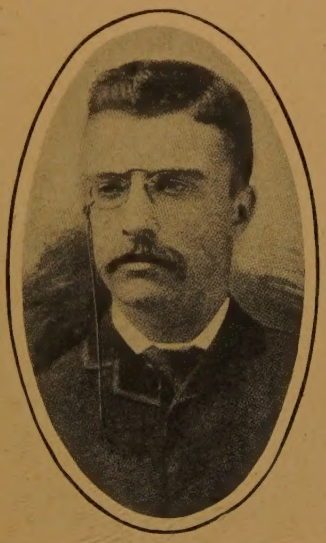
This Quixotic vacation which seemed indefensible at the time, became one of the most important influences in his career. Upon the fine Eastern stem of his culture, Dakota grafted something strong, something racy of the mountains and the plains. Ranch life not only restored him to health, making him a fearless horseman and a hardy hunter, it broadened his sympathies. He became a lover of "The Short Grass Country," and a student of the Western pioneer.



PORTRAIT OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT
Taken during his senior year at Harvard

These years at Medora may be called Roosevelt's post-graduate course in American citizenship. They made him national in feeling—enabling him to look back upon the East from the viewpoint of the West, and, when in 1889 he returned to New York and established his home at Oyster Bay, he set himself the task of writing "The Winning of the West"—a history of the hardy trailers who had led the triumphant march of the nation across the continent.

For some years his life at Sagamore Hill was of the most leisurely character; that is to say, it was as leisurely as Theodore Roosevelt ever permitted life to become. He wrote, he studied, he chopped wood, he rode horse-back, corresponding, meanwhile, with all sorts and conditions of men. Poets, sculptors, historians, scientific experts, political bosses, State officials, Foreign Representatives, were among his callers. Insatiably curious about birds and animals, as well as of the waste spaces of the world, he retained, nevertheless, his love of history and his knowledge of the Greek and Latin classics.



THEODORE ROOSEVELT
When an Assemblyman in the New York State Legislature

Return to Public Life

THE ELK HORN RANCH HOUSE

In Dakota, overlooking the Little Missouri. "A long, low house of hewn logs, which I helped to build myself"

From this life, so scholarly, so noble, so secure, he suddenly again threw himself into public life. As a well-known champion of civil service reform, he was made Commissioner, and for six years he fought valiantly against corruption, carrying forward, nevertheless, most of his literary and scientific interests. His mind, expanding with the years, became ever more inclusive. Powerful as a panther, with quick decisive step, no stranger meeting him at this time would have suspected that he had begun life as an asthmatic, undersized boy. Resourceful, humorous, unafraid, he compelled all men to yield him audience. No enemy could dominate him, no friend obscure him. He had the joyous confidence of an intellectual athlete. Impatient of dullness, and loathing double dealing, he went his conquering way.

In coming to New York City as Commissioner of Police, he seemed, in a sense, to be abandoning the broader national field of his activities, but this was only temporary. In truth his influence was widening swiftly, precisely as his powers were increasing, and when he returned to Washington as Assistant Secretary of the Navy, it was with added reputation as a man of courage, clear-cut purpose, and most unusual executive ability.

To his advisers, this acceptance of the appointment as Assistant Secretary of the Navy appeared a mistake. "The office is only a kind of head clerkship," they said. To this he made jocular reply, "The department *needs* a head clerk," but under his jesting a very serious purpose ran. He had always been interested in the Navy. Convinced that America was about to enter upon a perilous world adventure, foreseeing that her "splendid isolation" was about to give way, he advocated a fleet such as she had never imagined herself possessing. He

ROOSEVELT FAMILY GROUP

Taken before the birth of Quentin. The oldest girl is now Mrs. Alice Longworth, and the younger, Mrs. Ethel Derby. The three boys are Theodore, jr., Archie and Kermit

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THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S HOME, SAGAMORE HILL, OYSTER BAY

From a photograph taken on the day of his death, Jan. 6, 1919

perceived looming up in the immediate future a war with Spain. For all these reasons, the apparently insignificant post of Assistant Secretary to the Navy became important in his eyes.

His amazing knowledge of old-world armaments, and his keen realization of America's needs, combined with a restless energy and the power to compel attention, soon put him in virtual command of the Department. He was never weary, never in doubt, and entirely willing to assume responsibility. A natural commander of men, it appeared to some that he had reached the precise place where he could be of most service to the nation in time of conflict, and yet when the declaration of war came, he resigned his post to become the Lieutenant Colonel of "a Rough Rider" regiment!

Press Illustrating Service

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

As Governor of New York State

Rough Rider and Governor

This sudden change of plan dismayed many of his friends, who considered that he had thrown away his greatest opportunity. Without doubt the impulse to lead a regiment of cavalry came from his admiration of the Western cowboy, the centaur of the plains, but part of it arose from his constitutional dislike of being on the side-lines while an exciting game was going on. Under the command of his good friend Colonel Leonard Wood, he sailed for Cuba and became a soldier at the front.

"It was only a little war," he was accustomed to say afterward—and yet the nation, taking account of his powerful personality, and realizing that he possessed the capacity for larger command, made him its popular hero. In the many stories that came out of the field there was something that touched the heart of civilians as well as of soldiers. His men recognized in him a comrade and a fearless leader. They believed in his love for them, and they had good reason to do so, for a more considerate commander never led a regiment.

With his election to the governorship of his native State, his character and influence assumed national importance. Although but forty years of

age, he was recognized as a possible candidate for the presidency, and the reactionaries of his party, seeing the shadow of his great figure falling across their path, took council as to how best to check his growing power, and, after careful deliberation, decided that the best extinguisher for his career was the Vice-Presidency, for no Vice-President had ever been elected to the White House.

Governor Roosevelt knew what was in the minds of these false friends and resented it. "I can't help feeling," he wrote, "that the Vice-Presidency is not an office in which I could do anything. As you know, I am of an active nature" but in the end he submitted to the honest enthusiasm of the delegates to the National Convention. He came to John Hay's opinion, "I have no doubt it is all for the best," the Secretary of State said to him, "nothing can keep you from doing good work wherever you are."

THEODORE ROOSEVELT, ASST. SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

To Hamlin Garland
from his friend
Theodore Roosevelt

Copyright 1906, Clinedinst, Washington, D. C.
THEODORE ROOSEVELT IN THE SADDLE

In The White House

In this remark is a hint of the fact that Roosevelt, like Grant, was a man of destiny, and to those who believe in design there is something awe-inspiring in the tragic method by which the young unwilling Vice-President was raised to the position of chief executive. Within a year McKinley was assassinated and Roosevelt took his seat—at forty-two years of age, the youngest, most vital, most versatile President the White House had ever known.

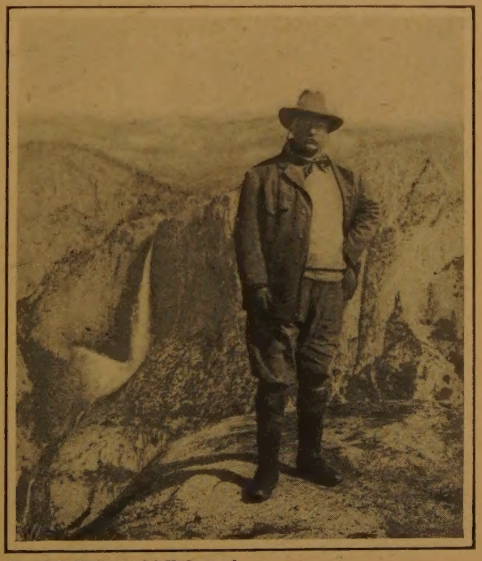
Loyalty to his predecessor led him to say that he would faithfully carry out McKinley's policies and promises, but in truth this was impossible to a man of Roosevelt's originality and force. He began at once a new and

THEODORE ROOSEVELT, PRESIDENT

inspiring administration. Bringing to his task an unconquerable courage and a fine idealism, he called upon the intellectuals of the nation, the men of vision and culture, to take office, not for graft or salary but for service. He made use of expert youth. No man could be too capable for him. Irrespective of tradition and the rules of political preferment, his subordinates were mainly chosen, and with his administration a new era in public life began. No President since Lincoln so profoundly affected the thought of his time. By his own action and by the employment of idealists of his own stamp he carried America from the position of an off-side looker on, to an active participation in the world's game. He accomplished all these things as much by what he was as by what he did. Essentially a world-figure, he looked upon the doings of Europe not as an Internationalist but as a broad-minded citizen of a grown-up Republic, and the seven years of his rule marked a swift evolution in national character.

During his administration the White House dining room, as well as the executive chamber, became a meeting place for the chiefs of every art. His knowledge of the classics, of French, of modern literature, enabled him to meet on terms of comradeship ambassadors like Bryce and Morley and Jusserand. In a thousand small ways, as well as in a hundred large ways, he influenced the literature as well as the politics of his time, and especially did he change the opinion in which the United States had been held by England and France. No intelligent American who chanced to visit the Old World just before and just after the Roosevelt Administration failed to note the growing respect for the United States which many English writers openly expressed.

There was no limit to President Roosevelt's activity. He restored the White House to its original dignity by the employment of expert architects. He called on St. Gaudens to design new coins for the mint. He made the Panama Canal a reality. He sent the fleet around the world. He made reclamation of waste lands a vast and all-



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THEODORE ROOSEVELT IN THE YOSEMITE

embracing policy. He put his authority behind every project that had for its object the conservation of the nation's resources, the welfare of women and children, and the advancement of science. His is not so much a record of what he did as what he inspired. His was a new conception of Public Service, a new vision of national destiny. He carried youth and power and faith in his face and voice as he went up and down the land, and "the Roosevelt policies" became a phrase with which to conjure. At the close of his first term his popularity was so great that no man could stand against it. He was renominated and re-elected by an enormous majority.

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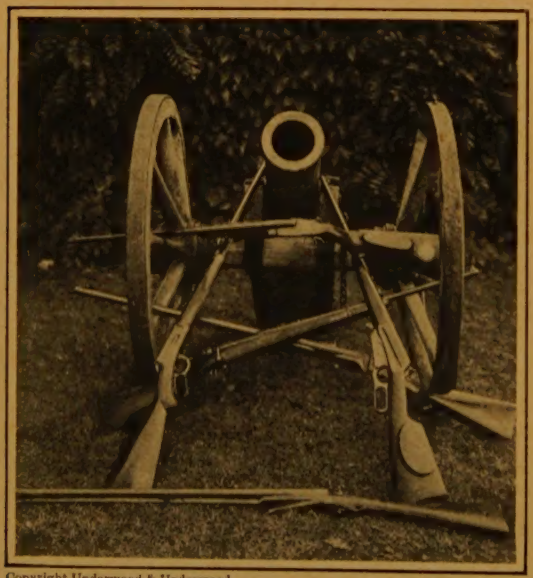
THEODORE ROOSEVELT ON THE PLATFORM

"Whether we will or not, we, as a nation, front a great destiny"

This overwhelming endorsement, while deeply gratifying, did not exalt him; it only added to his sense of responsibility. In private he expressed his foreboding that such adulation could not last. He knew the fickle temper of the American public. He had seen Grant and Dewey uplifted and cast down. Historian as well as reformer, he had a profound reverence for the Presidential Chair. No President was ever more democratic in his great office, and yet he permitted no lessening of its dignity. His regard for the best traditions of the Republic was so deep and his estimate of Washington and Lincoln so high, that to do violence to a single principle they held was unthinkable. He was the last man in the nation to thwart the public will, provided that will was clearly and definitely expressed.

Through all these manifold activities, these days of work and warfare and public service, his family life remained unbroken and undisturbed, as his letters to his children all show. His domestic relationships were charmingly tender and humorous and homely. He kept up his study of birds and flowers and animals, and it is deeply significant to note that in the midst of the work of bringing about the peace between Russia and Japan, he and Mrs. Roosevelt went down to their cabin in Virginia, to cook their own food and wash their own dishes in the fashion of hunters or pioneer settlers. He could fry chicken or negotiate a peace as occasion demanded.



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CANNON CAPTURED BY COL. ROOSEVELT

at San Juan, Cuba, in 1898; also some of his favorite guns

As the time came for him to lay down the scepter he had carried so long, his admirers as well as his enemies inquired, "What will he do now?" The problem of "How to employ our ex-Presidents" was especially difficult of solution in Roosevelt's case, for he was in the prime of life, dominant, alive in every fiber, and enormously popular. It was inconceivable that he should take up a business or that he

should content himself with writing a book. He solved the puzzle himself (for the moment at least) by announcing his plan to spend a year in exploration of Central Africa. It is significant of his tastes to observe that he carried on this trip a box of books, many of them classic authors in several languages.

Hunter and Explorer

For nearly a year he was entirely out of touch not only with the administration but with his political associates. He hunted, studied and catalogued, not merely the known animals of the region through which he passed, but many of the birds, insects and reptiles. His bag of specimens was large, his contributions to science of great value, and his return by way of Egypt, Italy, France, Germany and England was in the nature of a triumphal progress. He was everywhere received not only as a great hunter and a renowned ruler, but as a man of letters.

Press Illustrating Service

THEODORE ROOSEVELT, GRANDFATHER

A family group photographed at Sagamore Hill. Theodore Roosevelt holding his youngest grandchild, the son of Capt. Archie Roosevelt, Mrs. Archie Roosevelt, Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, Mrs. Richard Derby and children, Richard, jr., and Ethel Derby

In Egypt he delivered an address which created a tremendous stir, for it bore upon the subject of England's policy in the East, and in France, at the Sorbonne, he spoke with the same vigor and fearlessness of the falling birth rate. In Christiania he received the Nobel prize for having brought about peace between Russia and Japan, and in Oxford he was given a degree. The greatest men in England paid him honor, and on his return to New York his reception was like that which Emperors rejoice to claim. It seemed as if the whole nation was united in this welcoming acclaim.

He was not deceived. He knew that beneath this spontaneous, splendid welcome of the many there ran a note of opposition. A small, closely-knit phalanx of those who were disposed to check his policies, stood in the background ready to oppose any movement toward his renomination.

The contest that followed was bitter. Roosevelt stood against the reactionaries of his own party as he had constantly opposed the reactionaries of the nation during his term of office, and in the convention of 1912 a majority of the delegates stood with him, although "the old guard" retained enough votes to divide the party and defeat him.

The pictures taken of him during this campaign show a marked change in his expression. His face in repose betrayed a touch of age, a shade of sadness. His gay humor flashed out at times with all its former brilliancy, but he realized that with his defeat the forward movement of his party halted.

As relaxation from the labor of this campaign, he again sought the wilderness—this time in South America—and in this expedition for the first time suffered disaster, for having discovered and mapped an unknown river in the upper waters of the

Amazon, he fell ill of a fever and came near to death. His marvelous vitality carried him through, however, and he succeeded in reaching a village on the Amazon and a boat that brought him home, but he never recovered from the effects of that mysterious tropical disease. He regained his weight and appeared as rugged as ever, but the poison of the jungle lurked in his veins like a sly serpent showing itself in unexpected places.

His story of this trip reads like a narration by Marquette or La Salle. Always at his best when writing of the wild, his books of exploration are filled with splendid pictures of forest and plain. Certain of his paragraphs have the rhythmic march of poetry. In his wide-walled study at Sagamore Hill he now sat amid his trophies and reviewed his camps in the African jungle and among the rocks of the River of Doubt. His black hunters sang once more their booming chant around the body of the lion, and his gun-bearers crouched beside him as he met the charging elephant. At such times he forgot his political enemies and became only the hunter, the naturalist, the man of books.

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THE LEADING AMERICAN CITIZEN

Theodore Roosevelt at his home, Sagamore Hill

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THE LAST PICTURE

The photograph shows the arm band worn in mourning for his son, Quentin

Plain citizen as he now was, he continued to hold a kind of informal court. His correspondence touched every corner of the earth and dealt with the most diverse subjects. Nothing escaped his interest. His eyes grew weary but his mind was never tired. His method of resting was merely to change his activity. Every new theory, every new discovery, every notable book received his attention. One eye was totally blind and the other required a strong lens, and yet he read and wrote almost incessantly. To many of his friends he seemed to be living an ideal middle life, but to others his position appeared tragically impotent.

The beginning of the World War in 1914 roused him, calling upon his imagination and his patriotism with a force that excluded all other interests, and while for a time he loyally supported the President in his plea for neutrality, he privately stated that such a position was untenable. "We must save France to save England to save ourselves," he said to his intimates, and in this spirit he asked permission to raise an army of volunteers to join the French and English armies. All four of his sons went into the war with his God-speed. "I would go with you if I could," he said to them, "I would go as a corporal if I could obtain the consent of the Administration."

He aged sadly, swiftly during this war. He was like a powerful and intricate machine which wears upon itself for lack of adequate task. To make speeches, to write editorials, was well; but in time of vast war his place was at the front in commensurate active command. France called for him. England asked, "Why do you not send Roosevelt?" Partisanship made of him an advocate when

he should have been a general.

Of his essential greatness there is no longer any doubt. Removed from the field of party prejudices, his figure is admittedly colossal. In truth his political side is only one of his many sides. As historian, naturalist, orator, statesman, reformer, explorer, he manifested himself so strongly and in so many directions that the full measure of his influence cannot be considered until the enormous volume of his correspondence is all under the eye. It is estimated that over a million words of his unpublished correspondence is in safe deposit, and no judgment of his acts will be complete until his letters and private papers are brought to bear upon the case.

Copyright by Paul Thompson

THE LAST JOURNEY

Intimately studied, this amazing man becomes very human and lovable. In his letters to his children he is seen to be a father of the finest type, sympathetic, humorous, inspiring. Most considerate of husbands, he found time even in the midst of his most tumultuous day for a quiet hour with his family. The variety and the depth of his knowledge was almost that of a superman and yet to his friends he remained the most delightful of companions, jovial, charming, unassuming. Universally known as "Teddy," no one in his presence ever presumed to familiarity. With all his simplicity and directness, he never lost a certain quiet dignity—even in his rumpled riding suit he was the gentleman and the scholar.

Someone has said "Roosevelt was only the common man writ large," and in this there is a clear measure of truth. His traits were not peculiar; they were gigantic. There was no mystery in his powers; they were amazing by reason of their variety and their grasp. His tastes were normal, his faculties supernormal. Superbly normal in the balance of his powers, he was abnormal only in their use. His outlook on life was normal. He accepted the scheme of creation as a justifiable act. Holding no doubts about the value of existence, or the duty of continuing the race, he lent his whole heart and intellect to the welfare of the Great

PORTRAIT BUST OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT
By Gutzon Borglum

Republic whose citizen he was proud to be. Pessimists might say, "What is the use?" Roosevelt remained unmoved. In this he was nobly typical of the healthy, ordinary husband and father.

The verdict of the historians of the future cannot safely be anticipated, but that this picturesque, vivid, fearless, many-sided man will fill large space in the history of his century cannot be doubted even by those who saw him through the murk of partisan dislike. As Grant passed through a period of misprision, so did he, but, like Grant, he rose at the end to victory. He lived to see a vast army transported to France. He witnessed the adoption of a selective draft, the establishment of universal military training and a restoration of the navy—all measures for which he had fought at a time when they were unsupported even by many of his followers. He lived to see the defeat of the German Despotism and, best of all (in a human way) he lived to have the men whose alienation hurt him most extend their hands in token of their regard for his high service to the nation.

His death, which came suddenly and without pain, disarmed his bitterest enemies. He died in harness like the warrior that he was, leaving the whole nation stunned. It was as if some mighty natural force had abruptly ceased to throb—so closely had his activities knit themselves into the thought of all countries and all parties. To have achieved this result makes him one of the world's great figures, an American of far-seeing patriotism whose fame will surely increase as the irritations and antagonisms of political platforms pass away.

ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL EXHIBITION
Held in Avery Library, Columbia University, May 10-June 4, 1919, under the auspices of Columbia House—containing books from the Roosevelt library, favorite sculpture, the Presidential flag, trophies, portraits and other objects of interest

SUPPLEMENTARY READING

THEODORE ROOSEVELT—An Autobiography
THEODORE ROOSEVELT, THE CITIZEN - - - - - - *By Jacob Riis*
THEODORE ROOSEVELT - - - - - - - *By William Roscoe Thayer*
LIFE OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT - - - - - - *By William Draper Lewis*
THEODORE ROOSEVELT - - - - - - - - *By Henry Cabot Lodge*
IMPRESSIONS OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT - - - - - *By Lawrence F. Abbott*
THE BOY'S LIFE OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT - - - - - *By Herman Hagedorn*
THEODORE ROOSEVELT, THE BOY AND THE MAN - - - *By James Morgan*
THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S LETTERS TO HIS CHILDREN - *Edited By Joseph Bucklin Bishop*

*** Information concerning the above books may be had on application to the Editor of The Mentor.

ONE

WE have Theodore Roosevelt's own statement that for seven generations all the fathers and sons of the Roosevelt family first saw the light on Manhattan Island. Claes Martensen van Roosevelt was the original settler; he arrived from Holland two hundred and seventy-five years ago. He and his sons and their sons were respected, hard-working landholders. They did their share in the War of the Revolution and had a voice in the conduct of colonial affairs. The first of the family to attain distinction as a man of business was Cornelius van Schaack Roosevelt. It was his son, Theodore, born in 1831, who became the father of the twenty-sixth president of the United States. "My father," avowed Theodore the second, "was the best man I ever knew. He combined strength and courage with gentleness, tenderness, and great unselfishness. He would not tolerate in us children selfishness or cruelty, idleness, cowardice, or untruthfulness."

Roosevelt's mother was a Southern woman, Martha Bulloch. Her brothers fought on the side of the South in the Civil War. A biographer comments, "The fact that his parents came from the North and the South, and that, from his earliest memory the Southern kindred were held in affection in his home, must have helped him towards that non-sectional, all-American point of view which was the cornerstone of his patriotic creed."

The child Theodore, born in New York, at 28 East Twentieth Street, October 27, 1858, grew up in an environment of culture and thorough-going Americanism. To conquer the handicap of bodily weakness, he began at the age of nine a routine of exercise in which he persisted for the greater part of his life. By "unflinching diligence" he broadened his small, asthma-wracked chest and strengthened his slender limbs . . . laid the foundation for the remarkable physical resistance of after years.

When the little boy was eleven years of age ("a tall, thin lad with bright eyes and legs like pipestems") he went, complaining, on a year's trip to Europe with his parents and sister. He would have liked better to remain at home, pursuing undisturbed his inquiries into the ways of wild creatures and indulging his fondness for tales of adventure and romance. Before he was out of knickerbockers, the boy evinced habits of mind that characterized him to the end of his crowded life. Earnestness, persistency, loyalty, a love of good reading, and an unbounded interest in natural history were seemingly inborn qualities. When his body began to respond to the unremitting course in health promotion that he had undertaken as a child, the future sportsman and explorer found himself able to enjoy robust games and exercise. It is significant, in the light of his later career, that he preferred to row a boat against a wind that demanded all the strength of his young arms to combat, than to pass leisurely hours in a sail-boat. The family first went to Oyster Bay, Long Island, in the summer of 1874. The joys of the out-of-doors afforded the son of the family great delight. Roosevelt's own boyhood justified his declaring, when he had reached years of maturity: "The chances are strong that the American won't be much of a man unless he is a good deal of a boy. He must not be a coward or a weakling, a bully, a shirk, or a prig. He must work hard and play hard. He must be clean-minded and clean-lived, and able to hold his own against all circumstances and all comers. . . . In life, as in a football game, the principle to follow is: Hit the line hard; don't foul and don't shirk, but hit the line hard."

At the age of eighteen, Roosevelt was ready to enter Harvard. The story of his college days is the average tale of a student not over-zealous to learn, but liking life among his fellows, and disposed to follow up his own hobbies, of which this particular student had more than the average share. To search the byways about Cambridge for natural history and botanical specimens was to him of greater importance than formal lectures on these subjects in the class-room. In athletics, Roosevelt gained the respect of his college mates by his pluck, rather than by his skill. They listened with a certain curiosity when he spoke at student gatherings, for, undistinguished as he was in appearance and at a disadvantage because of natural reticence, they recognized the vivid personality that illumined all he said and did. He was elected editor of the *Harvard Advocate* and he "made" the most desirable of the student organizations. "I thoroughly enjoyed Harvard," said Roosevelt in writing his own story, "and I am sure it did me good."

Whether at work or at play, or as a figure in class politics, Roosevelt, the undergraduate, preserved his own quite extraordinary individuality. "Odd," many thought him, but acutely sensible, too, and in a forceful, winning way that often swept opponents into his own ranks.

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FROM "THEODORE ROOSEVELT THE CITIZEN" THE BIRTHPLACE OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT, NEW YORK CITY

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

Ranchman, Sportsman, Naturalist

TWO

AS a young man in college, and during his early political life, Roosevelt often answered the call of the wild. Congenial vacation periods were spent in the mountains of Maine and New York State with woodsmen and hunters as companions, and these experiences whetted his appetite for more vigorous phases of outdoor life.

In 1883, he put aside political ambition and, journeying to North Dakota, purchased a share in two cattle ranches in the region called the Bad Lands. Between the years 1884 and 1886, after the death of his mother and his wife, Alice Lee Roosevelt, his home address was the Elkhorn Ranch, Medora, North Dakota. There he entered into the life of the cowboys with zest, and learned to perform the oft-times arduous duties of a ranchman—learned, too, the rollicking, lawless ways of desperadoes, and how to cope with them. Stories of his encounters—not always verbal—with "bad men" and "rustlers" make mighty entertaining reading, as narrated by friends that knew the young Easterner when he was a hardy plainsman. Many incidents are recounted in his own "Hunting Trips of a Ranchman" (1885) and "Ranch Life and the Hunting Trail" (1888), which truthfully reflect the West, veritably the Wild West, of thirty years ago.

While living on his ranch Roosevelt spent much time hunting, and is said to have killed specimens of all the game to be found on the plains and the mountains. One of the interesting things about Roosevelt was his ability to share in almost every sort of outdoor and indoor diversion. But, says one who has made a special study of this phase of the great man's life, "he had no illusions as to his own excellence as an athlete or sportsman. While his reputation as a big game hunter is world-wide, many undoubtedly excelled him in this form of sport. He declared himself to be 'one of the mass of men of ordinary abilities who, if they choose resolutely to practice, can by sheer industry and judgment make themselves fair rifle shots.'" Those who knew him best avowed him to be a "true sport" in every respect—"a conscientious observer of the rules of the game, quick on the trigger, and no slow hand with the gloves."

At the completion of his service in the White House, Roosevelt found himself free to realize again his desire for outdoor adventure. In March, 1909, he and his son, Kermit, accompanied by a few friends and helpers, sailed for Africa for the purpose of hunting the elephant and buffalo on the African plains and securing rare specimens of plant and animal life. They remained out of touch with the world for nearly a year. The experiences and results of these months of gun and camera ventures are related by the hunter naturalist in his book, "African Game Trails." The collection of flora and fauna specimens brought back by the Roosevelt expedition were esteemed an important contribution to science.

Among Roosevelt's most valued friends were several of America's best known naturalists. One of them, Mr. Carl Akeley, of the American Museum of Natural History, found Colonel Roosevelt, though an amateur, "a naturalist of splendid training. He had the keen eye and mind of the ideal naturalist, and he was further aided by a phenomenal memory. He found infinite joy in studying wild animal life in its native haunts, and the least of his pleasure was in killing it."

John Burroughs said he "did not know a man with a keener and more comprehensive interest in wild life, an interest both scientific and human." During a trip through Yellowstone Park in 1903, Mr. Burroughs had occasion to remark President Roosevelt's extraordinary knowledge of birds. When he was visiting him four years later at Sagamore Hill he observed that the discovery of a new warbler in the woods "seemed an event that threw the affairs of State and the Presidential succession into the background."

In the Smithsonian Museum at Washington there is a collection of Egyptian birds gathered by Roosevelt when, as a fourteen-year-old boy, he was traveling with his father on the Nile, in the winter of 1872–73.

The trip to South America undertaken by Roosevelt and a party of scientists in 1914, was primarily one of exploration. However, he made, in his own words, "observations of a certain value on some of the strange creatures we met," and these observations are to be found in the volume, "Through the Brazilian Wilderness."

Addressing the readers of the *American Museum Journal* concerning his life as a naturalist, Roosevelt said, "My interest in natural history has added very little to my sum of achievement, but it has added immeasurably to my sum of enjoyment in life."

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THEODORE ROOSEVELT, THE RANCHMAN

THREE

ROOSEVELT was Assistant Secretary of the Navy when the troubles of Cuba first enlisted his sympathy. In his official position, he was able to further by suggestion and encouragement the plans of those that believed the United States Navy should be ready for war. When war was proclaimed his doctrines of naval and military preparedness (when did he ever fail to preach them?) seemed abundantly justified, even to the "peace-at-any price men" he scorned. It was through Roosevelt's influence that Commodore George Dewey was appointed commander of the Asiatic Squadron six months before the destruction of the *Maine*. A cablegram of instructions sent to Dewey by Roosevelt when Acting-Secretary of the Navy contributed directly to the demolition of the Spanish naval vessels in Manila harbor, May 1, 1898. "Keep the *Olympia*," he cabled, "and keep full of coal."

But Roosevelt had no liking for a "desk chair job" when the bugle sounded. He declared he had "no intention of having to excuse himself to his children for not having fought in the war." His wife had a new baby by her side, but he believed "a man who teaches the duty of fighting should pay with his body when the fighting comes." And, so against the advice of his closest friends, he made preparations to enter the military service.

Through the influence of General Alger, Secretary of War under McKinley, Roosevelt had his friend, Dr. Leonard Wood, appointed colonel of a volunteer regiment, while he obtained, at his request, a secondary command, that of Lieutenant-Colonel under Wood. A call for volunteers in the West and Southwest brought together an enthusiastic assemblage of citizens who had known Roosevelt, or known of him from his fellows, when he was a ranchman and hunter. So potent was the name "Roosevelt" among American plainsmen and mountaineers that the regiment of mounted riflemen known as the "Rough Riders" sprang into being within a very short time.

By May, Roosevelt was in San Antonio "learning the rudiments of war and teaching them to his motley volunteers." Already he bore the nickname "Teddy," and as "Teddy" this virile, versatile, earnest, spectacular young man was known during the war of the United States with Spain—and long after, even to the end.

Through the energy of Wood and Roosevelt, the regiment was organized and ready for war in four weeks. Once landed in Cuba, they quickly began to make history. They were among those in the lead during the march of the army on Santiago, and played a prominent part in the brief but bitter engagements in the valleys and on the hills about San Juan. Roosevelt took the keenest pride in the exploits of his men, just as they found immense satisfaction in observing the rise and progress of their adored leader. "Wherever he came," says one who visited the camp of the Rough Riders, "confusion, incapacity, gave way to order and efficiency. The sight of his face was enough to make his men rally for another fight with the enemy. They had seen him walking calmly on top of the earth wall when, in the small hours of the morning, drenched by pouring rains, chilled to the bone and starving in the trenches, they were roused by the alarm that the Spaniards were coming, and the sight made them heroes. They had heard his cheering voice when the surgeons were dressing the wounded by candle-light, after the fight at Las Guasimas: 'Boys, if there is a man at home who wouldn't be proud to change places with you, he is not worth his salt, and he is not a true American'; and the ring of it was with them yet."

The gallant conduct of Colonel Wood at Las Guasimas was rewarded by promotion, and Roosevelt became commander of the regiment. He was at the head of his troops during the storming of Kettle Hill, near Santiago, on July 1st; up the bare slope and down through the valley he led his five hundred men, exposed to the Spaniards' deadly fire. Historians tell us that "retreat had been counseled and in effect decided," but when the command to advance finally came, the Rough Riders and their chief recognized no obstacles—rushed upward to victory. Nearly a fifth of their number fell, killed or wounded.

When the fighting was done, Roosevelt performed still another task, and as valiantly as ever he had faced battle-fire. He sounded the alarm that stirred the nation against the Administration's lethargy in respect to the health and comfort of the troops engaged in Cuba. When the army was once more on American soil, and its sick were properly cared for in hospitals at Montauk Point, Long Island, the "insubordinate" Colonel was acclaimed the most popular man in America.

"If life on the plains democratized him," declares William Roscoe Thayer, "life with the Rough Riders did also. . . . He learned not only how to lead a regiment according to the tactics of that day, he learned how disasters and the waste of lives . . . sprang directly from unpreparedness. This burned indelibly into his memory. It stimulated all his subsequent appeals to make the Army and Navy large enough for any probably sudden demand upon them."

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COLONEL ROOSEVELT OF THE ROUGH RIDERS

ONE day, during Roosevelt's senior year at Harvard, he and one of his classmates were discussing what they would do after they left college. "I am going to try to help the cause of better government in New York City," Roosevelt avowed, "though I don't exactly know how." Not long after he uttered this prophetic sentence he returned to New York, and became interested in political conditions existing in his home district, adjacent to historic Union Square. Soon, his friends were disturbed by the news that he intended to abandon the study and practice of law, and adopt politics as a career. In 1881, and in the two years following, he was elected to the State Assembly, where he became known, and feared, for his obstinacy as a moral crusader. At the age of twenty-five the young Assemblyman was offered a nomination for Congress, but refused it. The wide spaces of Dakota knew him after the death of his mother and wife. For three years he was mourned by his political associates as a lost leader. On an autumn day in 1886, the master of Elkhorn Ranch came upon an announcement in a New York paper that he had been nominated for mayor of his native city. Returning to the East, he threw himself into the campaign with all his old vigor. He was defeated, but the die was cast. Roosevelt never again turned his back on politics.

As an enemy of the spoils system, this promising young man, who was to end his office-holding career in the Presidential chair, became a member of the Civil Service Commission, in President Harrison's administration, and was active in bringing public employment within reach of the people of all sections and all parties. After a period of service in Washington lasting six years, he accepted with enthusiasm an appointment as president of the Board of Police Commissioners, in New York City. The attention of the entire nation was riveted on his success in ridding the department of corrupting influences. At the end of two years of efficient, energetic service he resigned to accept an appointment as Assistant Secretary of the Navy. How capably he fulfilled the duties of this office everyone knows that has read the story of the eventful months preceding the Spanish-American War.

At the close of the War, Theodore Roosevelt, the Rough Rider, became Theodore Roosevelt, the Governor. Many in his native state and elsewhere doubted his ability to steer clear of political whirlpools, but, says a commentator, "in six weeks from his inauguration, he was the recognized master of the situation. Albany was dazed by his skill and success in governing. 'The Governor's got the best scheme I ever see in politics,' a Tammany senator exclaimed. 'He just plays the honesty game, and it works like a charm.'" The Governor, elected upon the pledge that he would rule by the Ten Commandments, "kept thrice over every promise that he made to the people in his canvass."

And so it was that throughout the country the name "Roosevelt" came to stand for sincerity and fearlessness. Admired by the people at large, he proved a sad disappointment to political "bosses" who had hoped to mould him. Yet, for a short time, it seemed as though they had succeeded in bending him to their will for, against his expressed determination, Roosevelt was nominated for the office of Vice President . . . an office that he realized would give him no opportunities for exercising his unusual gifts for leadership. On March 4, 1901, he took his place by President McKinley's side. Restless because he had too little to do, the newly installed Vice President renewed his study of law, and occupied himself with writing.

The fatality that removed William McKinley from his labors ended Roosevelt's period of inactivity. The oath of office as President of the United States was administered to the Vice President immediately after the death of McKinley, in September, 1901. Still a young man (he was the youngest President ever called to the White House), he soon made it clear that he was a man that would get things done. During his seven and a half years as President, the Navy was nearly doubled in tonnage, the Russian-Japanese War was ended by the Treaty of Portsmouth, the Battleship Fleet was sent around the world, the Consular Service of the United States was reorganized, the National Irrigation Act and the Pure Food and Drug Act were passed, the Panama Canal was begun, the Department of Commerce and Labor was established.

Some of the policies recommended by Roosevelt were the Inheritance Tax, the Income Tax, the Parcels Post Service, and the increase of the Army and Navy forces. His most noteworthy achievement, in the estimation of many of his fellow citizens, was the fact that he "changed the attitude of Government toward property, and gave the Republic a new ideal of the duties and responsibilities of citizenship"—a service he continued to give, in both precept and example, during his last years, when, after retiring from public office, he stood before the eyes of the people as the Leading American Citizen.

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PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT — LEAVING THE STAND AFTER DELIVERING HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS, MARCH 4, 1905

ROOSEVELT was as distinctly a man of letters as he was a man of action," in the opinion of the eminent literary critic, Professor Brander Matthews. As a writer, "he knew what he meant to say and he knew how to say it with simple sincerity and with vigorous vivacity. His style was tinglingly alive, and it was always the style of a gentleman and a scholar. His relish for life was scarcely keener than his relish for literature. . . . He devoured books voraciously—all sorts of books, old and new, established classics and 'best sellers,' history and fiction, poetry and criticism, travels on land and voyages by sea."

When a small boy, Roosevelt contributed brief accounts of his experiences as a student of bird-life to an insignificant ornithological magazine. So pleased was he with the appearance of these stories in type that he proudly kept copies on his desk "until they grew dog-eared and disappeared." While still in college the future author had occasion to consult official files to settle a question that had arisen in class concerning the actual number of American sea-fighters engaged in the War of 1812. His studies led to his writing an authoritative history, "The Naval Operations of the War between Great Britain and the United States—1812–1815," which was published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, in 1882. His readers realized, "probably for the first time," observes Thayer, "that the War of 1812 had not been a series of victories, startling and irresistible for the American Navy."

The first literary fruits of Roosevelt's life on the plains was the volume of personal reminiscences entitled, "Hunting Trips of a Ranchman," which, appearing in 1886, served to advance his reputation "as a man who could do nothing commonplace." Another volume of the same character, "Ranch Life and Hunting Trail," is still popular with American readers, though the first edition came from the press over thirty years ago.

After his defeat as candidate for mayor of New York, and his second marriage, Roosevelt gave himself for a time to farming and writing. At his home on the shores of Long Island he wrote the biographies of two distinguished Americans, Thomas Hart Benton and Gouverneur Morris. A decade or so later he produced his volume detailing in most readable style the Rough Riders' exploits in Cuba and added to his list of biographical works an impression of the life and character of Oliver Cromwell.

The books about his excursions into the wilds of South Africa and South America are vivid tales of his experience as a faunal naturalist. His "Autobiography," "written when the autobiographer was in the heat of the fight," will endure as a human document. The volumes of essays, "American Ideals," "The Strenuous Life," "History as Literature," and a "A Book-Lover's Holidays in the Open," betray the author's scholarliness and originality of thought. But, varied as were Roosevelt's contributions to other departments of literature, it is more than probable, Professor Matthews thinks, "that his ultimate reputation as a man of letters will most securely rest upon his stern labors as a historian—not on the book on New York, not on the biographies of Benton and Morris, not on the shrewd and sympathetic life of Cromwell, not on the stirring and picturesque 'Hero Tales of American History,' but on the four stately tomes of his most energetic and ambitious undertaking, the story of the 'Winning of the West,' which he began in his early manhood, and which he was always hoping to carry further." Roosevelt's historical material is "scientific in collection, comparison and analysis of the accessory facts, and it is artistic in its presentation to the reader of the results of the writer's indefatigable research."

Still other critics admit "The Winning of the West" to a place beside the historical writings of Parkman and Fiske, and declare the Colonel of the Rough Riders (on occasion "the high Commander-in-chief of Rough Writers") to have won lasting fame for his beautiful and graphic descriptions of ranch life and hunting trips on three continents.

"No doubt," says William Roscoe Thayer, "the purist will find occasional lapses in taste or expression, and the quibbling peddler of rhetoric will gloat over some doubtful construction; but neither purist nor peddler of rhetoric has ever been able in his writing to display the ease, the rush, the naturalness, the sparkle which were as genuine in Roosevelt as were the features of his face."

Vigor of phrase and sincerity of style marked Roosevelt's work as a contributing editor, associated with the staff of *The Outlook*, *The Metropolitan*, and other publications, after he left the White House. His editorial written for *The Metropolitan* of October, 1918, "The Great Adventure," will forever rank as a piece of "pure literature" beside the idealistic expressions of America's loftiest patriots.

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ROOSEVELT, LEADER OF THE PEOPLE

THE OPEN LETTER

Just a bit in the way of reminiscence. Years ago, when I left college, I found employment in the publishing house of Scribner's. One day, when I was in the front of the old store, which was then at 743 Broadway, I noticed a forceful and energetic man talking to the head of the retail department about several books on Nature and wild animals. "That's so—I know it," I heard him exclaim. Then he tossed a volume aside. "That stuff is sentimental. I don't believe the man ever saw big game." When he had finished his rapid survey of the new books he squared his shoulders and fairly bounded out of the store. I looked a question. "Theodore Roosevelt," said the head salesman. "He's the author of 'Hunting Trips of a Ranchman.' He's a live man, and you will see him doing things in public life. He will be running for Mayor of the city before long." And he *did* run for Mayor, but he didn't get elected. He was reserved for greater things.

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Years after—I was then connected with *Scribner's Magazine*—Theodore Roosevelt came back from the Spanish-American war in Cuba with a prestige that carried him irresistibly into the candidacy for Governorship of New York State. He had engaged to write the "Story of the Rough Riders" for *Scribner's*. His political headquarters were at the old Fifth Avenue Hotel, and the house of Scribner's was then on Fifth Avenue, between 21st and 22nd Streets, only a few yards away. Mr. Roosevelt often came over from the hotel, bustling in with an air that carried assurance of accomplishment at every step. He read proofs, looked over photographs, and made suggestions with a promptness and decision that left no doubt as to what he meant and wanted. His faculty for mental concentration was amazing. In the midst of a busy gubernatorial campaign, the half hour he devoted to printers' proofs was one of complete self absorption. That task completed, he was away in a minute, and back in politics.

The "Story of the Rough Riders" was partly written by Mr. Roosevelt at his home at Oyster Bay and partly dictated while he was campaigning for the Governorship. A professional stenographer was employed for the tour, and, in between speeches, Mr. Roosevelt carried on his dictation. He would leave the car platform after rousing a crowd with a vigorous address and, when the train had started for the next town, would resume his story. During his term of office as Governor he wrote for *Scribner's* "The Life of Oliver Cromwell"—a literary work that he undertook with enthusiasm, for he avowed a genuine admiration for the sturdy Commoner.

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Sometime later I was associated with a publishing business in which I was a partner. The mail, one day, contained a letter bearing the stamp of the White House. It was a personal communication from Mr. Roosevelt, and it began about as follows: "I have been informed by Miss K—— that a manuscript of hers has been accepted by your firm. I am familiar with her work, and I know that it is good." He then went on to state that this was Miss K——'s first book, and that he was aware that a first book by a new author was not a venture on which publishers could risk much, but that the authoress was, as he happened to know, in circumstances that called for consideration. He would suggest nothing contrary to business judgment, but if, in the estimation of the firm, the book did not seem to warrant a royalty payment before publication, he would like to advance a substantial sum himself, through the firm.

It is hardly necessary to say that the advance payment was made *by* the firm. The letter of appreciation received from Mr. Roosevelt later remains a treasured possession in the office.

★ ★ ★

A mind that comprehended all things, great and small,
A heart as tender in care of the weak as stout in leading the strong.

W. D. Moffat

EDITOR

AS OTHERS SAW HIM

ROOSEVELT'S greatest achievement was in his influence upon the ideals of his country, and his stimulation of the plain people to appreciate them."—WILLIAM H. TAFT.

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"He was a master and not a servant of the political order. In every activity, the spirit of Theodore Roosevelt escaped the limitations of all associations and traditions and emerged dominating, triumphant, and he thus represents to us neither locality nor vocation—not the author, or the traveler, or the naturalist, not the political leader or the officer, not even the statesman or the President, but the man—whose memory will ever remain an abiding inspiration."—CHARLES E. HUGHES.

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"Roosevelt was always advancing, always struggling to make things better, to carry some much-needed reform, and help humanity to a larger chance, to a fairer condition, to a happier life. He was at his best when he was fighting the battle of right against wrong."—HENRY CABOT LODGE.

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"He loved nature and the wild places of the world; the birds and the animals; and he understood these as few do. He had a clean soul. He loved home, family and friends—and above all, his country."—GENERAL LEONARD WOOD.

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"He loved companionship and found time to enjoy his friends. When that friend left, he had contributed all he possessed to the materials useful to this great Executive. He might be a college professor, a United States senator, a foreign ambassador, a state Governor, a Justice of the Supreme Court, a labor leader, a cowboy from the ranches, a hunter from the mountains, a traveler from overseas—all were equally welcome and all equal contributors."—CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW.

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"He was not something separate and apart from us. He was exceptional not because he was peculiar, but because he realized in such high degree our American traits and qualities. He showed us the meaning of Americanism, not merely by word and theory, but by living it himself. His words had great force. Some of them will never be forgotten."—DR. WILLIAM T. MANNING, *Rector of Trinity Church, New York.*